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Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Fouad **Rajeh** (Saudi Arabia)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2003, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty- eighth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 19th, 20th and 22nd meetings, on 17, 21 and 26 November 2003. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/58/SR.19, 20 and 22).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the budget for the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo for the period from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004 (A/58/381);

(b) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/58/447 and Corr.1).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/58/L.24

4. At its 22nd meeting, on 26 November 2003, the representative of Venezuela, Vice-Chairman of the Committee and coordinator of informal consultations on this item, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo" (A/C.5/58/L.24).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/58/L.24 without a vote (see para. 6).

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III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolutions 1258 (1999) of 6 August 1999 and 1279 (1999) of 30 November 1999, regarding, respectively, the deployment to the Congo region of military liaison personnel and the establishment of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1493 (2003) of 28 July 2003, by which the Council also authorized increasing the military strength of the Mission,

Recalling also its resolution 54/260 A of 7 April 2000, on the financing of the Mission, and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 57/335 of 18 June 2003,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as at 31 October 2003, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 139.7 million United States dollars, representing some 9.1 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes with concern that only thirty-two Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full;

[1] A/58/381.

[2] A/58/447 and Corr.1.

3. *Expresses concern* at the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

4. *Also expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

5. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

6. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

7. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Mission;

8. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy, particularly with regard to air transport;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

Budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004

11. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo the amount of 59,038,300 dollars for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004, in addition to the amount of 582 million dollars already appropriated and apportioned for the same period under the terms of its resolution 57/335;

12. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

13. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission;

14. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

15. *Decides* to keep under review during its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo".